

FIPRESCI-INDIA NEWSLETTER-23

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Website: <https://fipresci-india.org/>

FIPRESCI-INDIA ORGANISED GALA PROGRAM IN GOA



FIPRESCI-India conducted its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 24 Nov 2022 in Goa during the 53rd International Film Festival of India followed by the Book Release Program and Grand-Prix Award Ceremony. The AGM was held at the conference hall of Hotel Manoshanti at Panaji in Goa. Several important decisions were taken in the AGM to



strengthen the organization. The annual film journal (print version) CINE-INDIA (volume-III, Nov-2022) was published during the AGM. A collector's edition of FIPRESCI-India's yearly desk-top calendar 2023 was also released. Theme of this year's calendar is 'All Time Ten Best Indian Films' as voted by the members.

After the AGM a gala public function was held at the banquet hall of the same hotel. FIPRESCI-India's 2nd book 'Thinking Cinema: A Handbook for the Cinephiles' written by MK Raghavendra, published with the financial support of the Kerala Region of the Federation of Film Societies of India, and technical support of the 'Best Books Kolkata', was released by the legendary actor Dhritiman Chatterje. FIPRESCI-India Grand Prix for the Best Indian Film of the year for 2019, 2020 and 2021 with a plaque and a cash amount of 10,000 INR each were handed over to the winners by the acclaimed actor Gargee Roy Chowdhury. Aayush Patel, producer of the Gujrati film



Hellaro (2019); Arun Karthik, director of the Tamil film *Nasir* (2020); and Gaurav Madan, director of the Hindi film *Barah by Barah* (2021) received the awards in person. They expressed their thanks and gratitude for the awards and also for such a beautiful program physically attended by more than 70 important invited guests from all over the country.

53rd IFFI CONCLUDED WITH CONTROVERSY



The 53rd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) which opened in Goa on 20 Nov 2022 concluded on 28 Nov with a huge controversy when the head of the jury Nadav Lapid expressed concern of the jury over inclusion of Vivek Agnihotri's Hindi feature film *The Kashmir Files* in the international competition of the festival. In the award ceremony of the festival on 28 Nov evening, Nadav Lapid, the 47 years old internationally acclaimed Israeli filmmaker categorically told in his official jury deliberation that, "I'd like to thank the head of the festival and the director of the programming for the cinematic richness of the programme, for its diversity, for its complexity. It was intense. We saw seven films in the debutant competition, and 15 films in the international competition — the front window of the festival. 14 out of them had cinematic qualities, defaults and evoked vivid discussions. All of us were disturbed and shocked by

the 15th film, *The Kashmir Files*. That felt like a propaganda, vulgar movie, inappropriate for an artistic competitive section of such a prestigious film festival. I feel totally comfortable to openly share these feelings here with you on this stage. In the spirit of this festival, can surely also accept a critical discussion, which is essential for art and life". His statement immediately got viral in the media, especially on social media and became highly controversial. The Golden Peacock Award for Best Film was given to the Spanish film *I have Electric Dreams* directed by Valentina Maurel. The Best Director award was given to Nader Saeivar for Turkish film *No End*. Special Jury Award was conferred to Lav Diaz for his film *When the Waves are Gone*. Iranian film *Nargesi* directed by Payam Eskandar bagged the ICFT UNESCO Gandhi Medal.

60th VIENNA

FIPRESCI award in the 60th Vienna International Film Festival – Viennale (Austria, 20 Oct to 1 Nov 2022) was given to the film *Unrest* by Cyril Schäublin (Switzerland, 2022, 93 min). The jury (in pic) composed of Kira Tazsman (Germany), Susanne Gottlieb (Austria), and Johannes Hagman (Sweden) said in their citation that the award is given to the film "for its depiction of an original international atmosphere in a small place, for its questioning of our understanding of history, and for seeing watchmaking through a prism of history."



67th VALLADOLID

FIPRESCI award in the 67th Valladolid International Film Festival (Spain, 22 to 29 Oct 2022) was given to the film *The Quiet Girl* by Colm Bairéad (Ireland, 2022, 94 min). The jury composed of Jean-Max Méjean (France), Tonci Valentic (Croatia), and Esteve Soler Miralles (Spain) said in their motivation: "A movie that grows in the mind of the audience at the end of the screening, with the perfect mise-en-scène, simple and complex at the same time, and that confronts the loneliness of children and adults alike."

33rd CARTHAGE

FIPRESCI award in the 33rd Carthage Film Festival (Tunisia, 29 Oct to 5 Nov 2022) was given to the film *Tug of War* by Amil Shivji (Tanzania, 2021, 92 min). The jury composed of Henda Haouala (Tunisia / France), Olfa Chakroun (Tunisia), and Safaa Ellaisy Haggag (Egypt). In this edition of the festival a new section 'Carthage Critics Week' was initiated to honour the young directors from all continents showcasing 7 feature films with different artistic sensibilities.



Qatar, 2022, 112 min) and for the Greek Panorama the award was given to the film *Behind the Haystacks* by Asimina Proedrou (Greece, Germany, North Macedonia, 2022, 118 min).

37th MAR DEL PLATA

FIPRESCI award in the 37th Mar del Plata International Film Festival (Argentina, 3 to 13 Nov 2022) was given to the film *I Have Electric Dreams* by Valentina Maurel (Belgium, France, Costa Rica, 2022, 100 min). The jury was composed of Elaine Guerini (Brazil), Valentina Giraldo Sánchez (Colombia), and Diego Faraone (Uruguay). The film also won the Best Film Award (Golden Peacock) in the 53rd International Film Festival of India with a cash amount of 40 Lakh INR.



32nd COTTBUS FILM

FIPRESCI award in the 32nd Festival of East European Cinema, Cottbus (Germany, 8 to 13 Nov 2022) was given to the film *Minsk* by Boris Guts (Estonia, 2021, 78 mins). The jury was composed of Colette de Castro (France), Calin Boto (Romania), and Tina Waldeck (Germany). (In Pic: Tina Waldeck, Colette de Castro, Călin Boto with award winner Boris Guts).



63rd THESSALONIKI

FIPRESCI jury composed of Alin Tasciyan (Turkey), Helen Barlow (France), and Robenson Eksiel (Greece) awarded two films, one for the International Competition, and the other for Greek Panorama in the 63rd Thessaloniki International Film Festival (Greece, 3 to 13 Nov 2022). For the International Competition the award was given to the film *Plan 75* by Chie Hayakawa (Japan, France, Philippines,

17th SEVILLA EUROPEAN

FIPRESCI jury composed of Olga Skomoroshchenko (Ukraine), Daniel Oliveira Silva (Brazil), and Alberto Vandenbroucke (Spain) awarded the film *Afterwater* by Dane Komlijen (Germany, Spain, Serbia, South Korea, 2022, 93 min) in the 17th Sevilla European Film Festival (Spain, 4 to 12 Nov 2022). The jury followed the Endless Revolutions program.



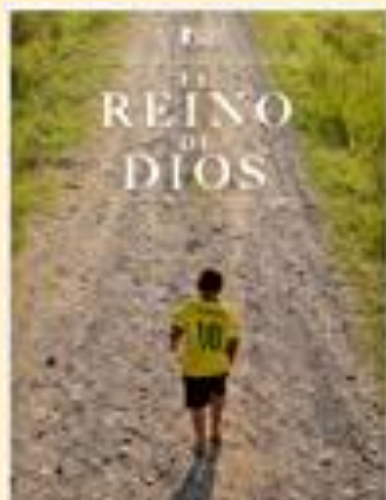
33rd LJUBLJANA

FIPRESCI jury composed of René Marx (France), Gena Teodosievska (Macedonia), and Ivana Novak (Slovenia) awarded the film *The Braves* by Anaïs Volpé (France, 2021, 99 min) in the 33rd



Ljubljana International Film Festival (Slovenia, 9 to 20 Nov 2022). The jury focused on the Perspectives program.

FIPRESCI award in the 26th Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival (Estonia, 11 to 27 Nov 2022) was given to the film *Upon Entry* by Juan Sebastián and Alejandro Rojas (Spain, 2022, 74 min). The jury composed of Maximilian Schäffer (Germany), Margit Adorf (Estonia), and Flavia Dima (Romania) said in their citation that the film is an “accomplished and very mature debut film that is able to thrill audiences both large and small, both niche and mainstream.”



60th GIJÓN

FIPRESCI award in the 60th Gijón International Film Festival (Spain, 11 to 19 Nov 2022) was given to the film *Anhell69* by Theo Montoya (Colombia, Romania, France, Germany, 2022, 72 min). The jury composed of Ela Bittencourt (Brazil), Adrian Martin (Australia), and Joaquin Vallet Rodrigo (Spain) also awarded a prize for the best director to Claudia Sainte-Luce for her film *Kingdom of Heaven* (El Reino de Dios, Mexico, 2022, 73 mins).

33rd STOCKHOLM

FIPRESCI award in the 33rd Stockholm International Film Festival (Sweden, 9 to 20 Nov 2022) was given to the film *World War III* by Houman Seyyedi (Iran, 2022, 117 min). The jury composed of Rita Di Santo (UK), Hsin Wang (Taiwan), and Setareh Yousefi (Sweden) said in their motivation that: “Complex, humorous, moving, provocative, and profoundly humane, ‘World War III’ is wearing well. A visceral experience, immersing the audience in the vicious delirium of filmmaking. The director paints a picture of a lonely man treated with disregard, with enough humanity and understanding to make us root for him throughout....”



59th TAIPEI

FIPRESCI award in the 59th Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival (Taiwan, 10 to 27 Nov 2022) was given to the film *Coo-Coo 043* by Chan Ching-li (Taiwan, 2022, 135 min). The jury was composed of Ernesto Diezmartínez (Mexico), Jason Tan Liwag (Philippines), and Estella Huang (Taiwan).

26th TALLINN BLACK NIGHTS



30th ENERGA CAMERIMAGE

FIPRESCI award in the 30th Energa CAMERIMAGE International Film Festival (Poland, 12 to 19 Nov 2022) was given to the film *Bardo: False Chronicle of a Handful of Truths* by Alejandro González Iñárritu (Mexico, 2022, 152 min). The jury was composed of Leopoldo Muñoz (Chile), Lesław Roman Czapliński (Poland), and Jana Běbarová (Czech Republic).



23rd EUROPEAN CINEMA

FIPRESCI award in the 23rd Festival of European Cinema, Lecce (Italy, 12 to 19 Nov 2022) was given to the film *Zuhal* by Nazli Elif Durlu (Turkey, Germany, 2021, 88 min). The jury composed of Joanna Orzechowska-Bonis (France), Paola Casella (Italy), and Živa Emeršič (Slovenia) in their motivation said: "For its original idea and smart development of the deceptively simple story that begins as an absurd search for a cat supposedly hidden in the walls of the upper middle-class residential building..."



44th CAIRO

FIPRESCI award in the 44th Cairo International Film Festival (Egypt, 13 to 22 Nov 2022) was given to the film *19B* by Ahmad Abdalla (Egypt, 2022, 95 mins). The jury was composed of Rita Di Santo (UK), Henda Haouala (Tunisia/ France), and Mohamed Atef (Egypt).



71st MANNHEIM-HEIDELBERG



FIPRESCI award in the 71st Mannheim-Heidelberg International Film Festival (Germany, 17 to 27 Nov 2022) was given to the film *The Maiden* by Graham Foy (Canada, 2022, 117 min). The jury (in pic) composed of Agustin Acevedo Kanopa (Uruguay), Veronika Zakonjšek (Slovenia), and Jérôme d'Estais (Germany) followed "On the Rise" competition for newcomers (first and second feature films).

Jury, in their motivation said that the film was awarded "For its gentle but strong depiction of grief and the immersive power of grainy 16mm photography depicting a world in which realism and urban mysticism become interwoven".

CHIDANANDA DASGUPTA MEMORIAL LECTURE AND AWARDS

FIPRESCI-India presented the 3rd Chidananda Dasgupta Memorial Lecture on 20 Nov 2022 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder president Chidananda Dasgupta. This year the lecture was delivered by Prof. I. SHANMUGHADAS. Result of the 3rd Chidananda Dasgupta Competition for Best Film Criticism was also declared after the lecture. Abhishek Roy and Sragdharamalini Das won the best and 2nd best awards with a cash amount of Rs.6000/- and Rs.4000/- respectively. Ankita Rathour, Ashish Dwivedi, Johnson Rajkumar, Kalpajyoti Bhuyan, and Sanil M Neelakandan were awarded with Certificate of Merit. All award-winning criticisms will be published in E-CineIndia.